Introduction

There is great value in methods and tools. At least three come quickly to mind:

- They facilitate your ability to lead groups whether you are gifted to lead or not.
- By using them with your leaders-in-training, you are developing their ability to assess and lead the group you plant.
- They help us stay focused on what’s most important, even while ministering to the urgent problems that occur in the home church members’ (and your own!) lives.

It is important we never lose our sight of the fact that they are only tools and methods for assessing and guiding your group’s pursuit of the Great Commission.

Because home church ministry is multi-focused and very complex, it is easy to lose sight of your home church’s overall spiritual health and progress in the Great Commission. Sometimes leaders go several months without stepping back and getting the big picture of their home church. Because we are leading more by intuition then, we can be prone to either undo discouragement or a naïve sense of spiritual health that isn’t there.
Home Church Evaluation

Church:

Date:

As you evaluate your church, briefly summarize your impression in each area.

I. Present Leadership:

   A. How much do you enjoy leading a home church?

   B. In what ways do you feel God growing you as a leader?

   C. What are the most significant challenges your leadership team has faced or is currently facing?

   D. Leadership Meetings and Unity

      - Are you satisfied with the efficiency, duration, fruitfulness, and frequency of your leaders’ meetings?

      - How free is communication at your leaders’ meeting? Do the leaders generally agree on conclusions reached? In all honesty, can you say that there are no outstanding issues causing resentment among the leaders?

      - Do you use your leaders’ meetings to train future leaders? If so, how?
II. Prayer

A. If your church has a special prayer meeting, describe it.

B. Are members growing in their individual prayer lives? How do you know?

C. Describe the leaders’ personal prayer habits for the flock God has entrusted to them.

D. How many people attend prayer meeting?

III. Body Life

A. Do you think members are growing in their love for one another? Describe members’ involvement with one another after meetings and throughout the week.

B. What proportion of your people attends CT and HC regularly? Do they like being there?

C. What does the group do after CT?

D. Which is your greatest area of weakness and of strength regarding body life?

IV. Home Church Meeting

A. Assess the quality of your home church teachings. (i.e. are they entertaining, interactive, engaging, gospel-oriented, Christ-centered, biblically faithful, convicting, clear, etc)

B. How do you train new teachers?

C. Do you have your gifted teachers teaching more than others?
D. How long do your meetings usually last, not counting prayer?

E. Are members invested in the meeting's health? How do you see members contributing?

F. When people pray, how much does the group respond with verbal affirmation?

G. What proportion of most meetings is discussion vs. lecture.

V. Giving:
A. Are members giving faithfully and growing in their generosity? Do your people give to anything/anyone in addition to the Xenos general fund? Explain.

B. What proportion of your members make pledges?

VI. Cell Groups:
A. Is your cell group an exciting meeting that members want to attend? Are cell members growing in their love for God and for His Word?

B. Assess the changes in the composition of your cell groups over the past several months. Why did those people leave or join?

VII. Top end work
A. Future Leaders: Indicate the names of those you hope to move into leadership next. Do these people want to become leaders and are they aware of the next steps they need to take?

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<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Next steps toward preparation for cell leadership</th>
<th>Currently getting being discipled by</th>
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B. How much agreement do you see between your leaders on these issues?

C. Describe strengths and weaknesses in your upcoming leaders’ discipleship ministry.

D. For each cell group, what is the greatest area of need? (e.g. Evangelism; Bible knowledge; Personal time with God; Victory over sin; Loving others; Communication/ listening skills; Other)

E. Who in the home church is maxed out with disciples? Who needs disciples? Who should be first in line for any new neutral male or female?

VIII. Evangelism and Follow-up

A. Has God brought significant numbers of new people (first timers) to your church over the past year? Are your workers actively witnessing?

B. Which new people have become incorporated? Which new people have not become incorporated? Were these losses unavoidable, or the result of poor work?

C. How effectively do leaders coordinate follow-up/ shepherding responsibility?

What key points are you coming away from this evaluation with?

On a scale from 1 (the HC may need to recombine soon) to 10 (doing awesome in most ways), what would you rate your group at this time? Circle your opinion, and then compare notes and reasons.

1-------2-------3------4--------5--------6--------7------8------9------10